

## State Water Resources Control Board

December 27, 2016

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**NO. 7015 1520 0001 8017 1634**

Mr. Collins Kalu  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan  
Transportation Authority  
One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, California 90012  
[kaluc@metro.net](mailto:kaluc@metro.net)

**SUBJECT: NO ENFORCEMENT FOR LINE LEAK DETECTORS ON UNDERGROUND  
STORAGE TANK SYSTEMS LOCATED AT METRO DIVISION 2, 720 EAST  
15<sup>TH</sup> STREET, LOS ANGELES**

Dear Mr. Kalu:

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is in receipt of the documents that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) submitted in response to the State Water Board's January 27, 2016 Notice of Violation (NOV). The documents demonstrate that the ongoing violations have been corrected, except for violation 6, Failure to Install Line Leak Detectors (LLD).

In its March 17, 2016 response, Metro explained that the pneumatic pumps used for the motor oil, torque oil, and antifreeze tank systems experience high pressure changes that exceed the operating capabilities of any LLD currently available. Additionally, Metro explained that the following measures are used to ensure that the tank systems are safely operated: programmed with positive shut down and fail safe; audible and visual monitoring alarms; facility is manned 24-hours a day, 7 days a week; conducts visual and daily remote monitoring; and performs a 0.1 gallon per hour precision line test on the antifreeze pressurized lines. The State Water Board understands that there is currently not a precision line test that exists for use with the motor and torque oil tank systems.

While the State Water Board sympathizes with Metro's situation, California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 23, chapter 16, section 2636(f)(2), requires underground pressurized piping to be equipped with a LLD. There is no exception to this requirement, even for those underground storage tank (UST) systems where there is not a current practical means of compliance.

Because there is not available technology that would allow Metro to become compliant with the LLD requirement for the aforementioned USTs, the State Water Board intends to use its discretion and not initiate an enforcement action regarding this violation. In addition to the measures Metro has taken, the State Water Board will require Metro to annually test the ASCO solenoid valves, ensure the devices are tagged at the time of testing, and include them on the annual monitoring certification documentation. This additional monitoring requirement must be

noted in the corresponding monitoring plans and approved by the local agency, Los Angeles City Fire Department.

This determination does not preclude the State Water Board, or any other local, state, or federal agency, from exercising any enforcement authority it may have and extends only for as long as Metro maintains compliance with the other UST requirements found in Health and Safety Code chapter 6.7 and CCR, title 23, chapter 16.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 341-5551, or by email at [amantha.henkel@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:amantha.henkel@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amantha Henkel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amantha Henkel  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
UST Enforcement Unit  
**Office of Enforcement**

cc: See next page.

cc: *(via email only)*

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